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SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 99

SOTIRIOS CHRISTOS ROUMANIS

FEBRUARY 19 (legislative day, JANUARY 29), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 587]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 587) for the relief of Sotirios Christos Roumanis, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence to Sotirios Christos Roumanis upon payment of the required visa fee and head tax. The bill also provides for an appropriate quota deduction.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 40-year-old national of Greece who entered the United States as a visitor on August 9, 1948. Information in the committee files is to the effect that if the beneficiary of the bill should return to Greece his life would be in jeopardy.

A letter dated June 9, 1949, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Assistant to the Attorney General with reference to S. 846, which was a bill introduced in the Eighty-first Congress for the relief of the same alien, reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
Washington, June 9, 1949.

HON. PAT McCARRAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 846) for the relief of Sotirios Christos Roumanis, an alien.

The bill would provide that, in the administration of the immigration and naturalization laws, Sotirios Christos Roumanis, of Denver, Colo., who was admitted into the United States on a temporary visa, shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to this country for permanent residence as of August 8, 1948, the date of his actual entry, upon payment of the required head tax and visa fee. The bill would also direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota.

The records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that the alien was born in Greece on December 28, 1909, and that he is a citizen of that country. He arrived in the United States at Chicago on August 9, 1948, when he was admitted as a temporary visitor for 3 months. The alien has overstayed the period of his temporary admission and is unlawfully in the United States. His wife and daughter reside in Greece where he owns his home and a shoemaking business with a combined value of about \$13,000. He is presently living with his wife's sister and her husband in Denver, Colo., who have stated that they are able and willing to support him until such time as he becomes self-supporting. If he is permitted to remain in the United States, the alien plans to bring his wife and daughter to this country as soon as it is possible. On December 29, 1948, the alien filed an application for adjustment of his immigration status under section 4 of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948 (Public Law No. 774, 80th Cong.) on which final action has not yet been taken. It does not appear, however, that he is eligible to apply for relief under that act, since he arrived in the United States after April 1, 1948.

The quota for Greece to which the alien is chargeable is oversubscribed and a visa is not readily obtainable, but the record fails to disclose sufficient reason to justify granting a preference to him over other persons who are chargeable to the quota for Greece.

Accordingly, this Department is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,
The Assistant to the Attorney General.

Senator Edwin C. Johnson, the author of the bill, has submitted the following affidavit in support of the bill:

AUGUST 17, 1949.

I, Panayes G. Dikeou, do solemnly swear that the life of my brother-in-law, Sotirios Christos Roumanis, will be endangered if he is returned to Greece. Sotirios Christos Roumanis left Greece for the United States because his life had been threatened by the Communists, and his home had been raided by the Communist Party three times. He was forced to flee, leaving his wife and daughter; furthermore, he had to dissolve a flourishing business, because it was impossible for him to continue. It is imperative for his life and his well-being that he be permitted to remain in the United States on a permanent immigration visa.

PANAYES G. DIKEOU.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of August 1949.

[SEAL]

AUGUSTA W. SCHIFF,
Notary Public.

My commission expires October 17, 1949.

It is the information of the committee that the beneficiary of the bill is not eligible for relief under section 4 of the Displaced Persons Act, as amended.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 587) should be enacted.